

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BRASIL 02214 212213Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /026 W  
-----212216Z 029892 /73/62  
Z 212050Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 671

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 2214

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y FOR TEXT:(THROUGHOUT)

FROM THE AMBASSADOR

EO 11652 GDS  
TAGS PFOR CN BR US  
SUBJECT: PROPOSED MESSAGE OF PRESIDENT TO BRAZILIAN PRESIDENT  
GEISEL

REF: STATE 62212

1. I BELIEVE THAT, ON BALANCE, THE PROPOSED LETTER WILL BE  
HELPFUL. I SUGGEST BELOW A FEW CHANGES IN THE TEXT THAT I BELIEVE  
WILL IMPROVE IT.

2. IN COMING TO THIS CONCLUSION, WE HAVE TAKEN INTO  
ACCOUNT THE VERY COLD, ABRUPT NATURE OF THE LETTER FROM  
PRESIDENT GEISEL TO WHICH THE PRESIDENT WOULD BE RESPONDING.  
I HAVE SEEN FEW LETTERS FROM ONE CHIEF OF STATE TO ANOTHER  
THAT HAVE BEEN AS MINIMALLY COURTEOUS AS THE GEISEL COMMUNICATION.

3. THE PROPOSED LETTER FROM PRESIDENT CARTER IS, FROM THE  
US POINT OF VIEW, A "TURNING OF THE OTHER CHEEK" AND A GENEROUS  
RESPONSE TO AN UNGENEROUS CORRESPONDENT. IN THIS RESPECT, THE  
PROPOSED LETTER CUTS TWO WAYS: FIRST, IT ESTABLISHES THAT THE  
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PAGE 02 BRASIL 02214 212213Z

PRESIDENT IS PREPARED TO MOVE AHEAD IN A CONSTRUCTIVE WAY WITH  
BRAZIL; SECONDLY, WHILE THERE IS ALWAYS THE  
POSSIBILITY THAT SOME ELEMENTS WITHIN THE BRAZILIAN  
GOVERNMENT--NOTING THAT THERE IS NO SUBSTANTIVE OR  
PROTOCOLARY REQUIREMENT FOR PRESIDENT CARTER TO REPLY--  
MAY MISINTERPRET IT AS DEMONSTRATING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF  
THE BRAZILIAN TACTICS OF INTRANSIGENCE AND

COMBATIVENESS, IT IS SOMEWHAT MORE LIKELY ON THE OTHER  
HAND THAT THE LETTER WILL BE USEFUL TO ELEMENTS IN THE GOVERNMENT  
WHO ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE EMOTIONAL BRAZILIAN REACTIONS TO THE CART  
ER  
ADMINISTRATION AND TO THE PRESIDENT PERSONALLY. IN ANY EVENT,  
WE THINK THE TONE OF THE LETTER, WHICH DOES NOT GIVE WAY ON  
ANY SUBSTANTIVE POSITION, IS THE GESTURE OF A RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT.

4. WE PROPOSE THE FOLLOWING CHANGES IN YOUR SUGGESTED  
TEXT: (A) FIRST SENTENCE OF LETTER FOLLOWING SALUTATION, SHOULD  
READ "I WELCOME YOUR LETTER OF MARCH 9."  
("MOST WELCOME" SOUNDS FALSE AND PERHAPS SOMEWHAT APOLOGETIC.)  
(B) IN FIRST SENTENCE OF SECOND PARAGRAPH,  
STRIKE "VERY" BEFORE "HELPFUL." (THIS IS A FACTUAL EXAGGERATION  
AND SOUNDS A FALSE NOTE.) (C) IN THIRD PARAGRAPH FOLLOWING SECOND  
SENTENCE, WHICH NOW ENDS WITH WORDS "OUR TWO NATIONS" CHANGE  
PERIOD TO COMMA AND ADD THE FOLLOWING CLAUSE, "ONE THAT IS BASED  
ON MUTUAL RESPECT AND MUTUAL RECOGNITION OF OUR IMPORTANT ROLES  
IN AN INTERDEPENDENT WORLD." (AT THE SAME TIME THAT THE LANGUAGE  
RECOGNIZES BRAZIL'S IMPORTANCE AND NEED FOR OUR RESPECT, IT  
ALSO IS A GENTLE REMINDER THAT THE RELATIONSHIP IS A TWO-WAY  
STREET.)

5. IF ONE OF THE SUBSIDIARY PURPOSES TO BE SERVED BY THIS LETTER  
IS TO ELICIT A FURTHER REPLY FROM THE BRAZILIANS ON THE PROPOSALS  
CONTAINED IN OUR POST-CHRISTOPHER VISIT AIDE MEMOIRE OF MARCH  
7, WE WANT TO MAKE VERY CLEAR OUR OPINION THAT THIS IS A NONSTARTER.  
THE BRAZILIANS ARE NOT GOING TO VOLUNTEER ANY RESPONSE TO THOSE  
PROPOSALS. AS FAR AS THEY ARE CONCERNED, THE BRAZILIAN REPLY WAS  
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PAGE 03      BRASIL 02214 212213Z

CONTAINED IN THEIR AIDE MEMOIRE OF MARCH 9 (BRASILIA 1857). IF THE  
GOB IS TO MAKE ANY RESPONSE TO OUR PROPOSALS, IT WILL HAVE TO  
BE WRENCHED OUT OF THEM, SUCH AS BY ASKING FOR FURTHER MEETINGS  
IN BRASILIA.  
CRIMMINS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 21-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977BRASIL02214  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770183-0651, D770096-1000  
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**Message ID:** b8845cb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** 77 STATE 62212  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 01-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3053062  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PROPOSED MESSAGE OF PRESIDENT TO BRAZILIAN PRESIDENT GEISEL  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PPDC, SHUM, MASS, BR, US, (CARTER, JIMMY), (GEISEL, ERNESTO)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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